

The Wednesday Reader

September 11, 2019

Please note: I will be out of the office beginning Friday, September 13 and returning Tuesday, September 24; therefore, there will not be a Wednesday Reader next week, September 18.

Regional Workshops the Fall to Inform and Prepare for Perkins V Implementation in the 2020-2021 School Year—Helena and Bozeman Added to List

Perkins V legislation was passed last summer (2018), and this fiscal year (2019-2020) is Montana's Transition year to work with schools on the changes within the new law.

The Office of Public Instruction and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education are offering schools the following training opportunities to learn more about the changes to the law.

The workshops are open to all interested parties including CTE teachers, school counselors, school/district administrators, district clerks, school/district CTE coordinator and CTE advisory committee members.

All Workshops are scheduled for after school or on a Saturday morning so you should not need substitute teachers. You may ask your administration if Perkins funds (from 2019-2020 funding) can be used for your travel, stipend, and meals (if traveling over lunch or dinner). Please note, no beverages or snacks will be served at these workshops.

Content to be covered:

- Rigorous MT Career Pathways defined
- Alignment to Workforce labor needs
- Work-based Learning
- Dual Enrollment
- Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment
- Data-driven Decision-making
- Continued Integration of Academics and CTE

Workshops will be held on the following schedule

- Missoula: Friday, September 20, 4-6 pm, at Missoula College, Room 340
- Kalispell: Saturday, September 21, 9-11 am, at Flathead Valley Community College, Arts & Technology Building, Room 144
- Billings: Wednesday, September 25, 4-6 pm, at City College, Health Sciences Building, Room 119
- Butte: Monday, September 30, 4-6 pm, at Highlands College, Room 119
- Glendive: Thursday, October 10, 9 am-4 pm, at the Prairie View Curriculum Consortia offices
- Havre: Tuesday, October 15, 4-6 pm, at MSU Northern, Brockmann, Room 202
- Belgrade: Thursday, October 17, during the MFPE 2019 Educator Conference
- Great Falls: Thursday, October 17, 2-3:30 pm, during the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute at the Heritage Inn
- Helena: Montana, October 28, 4-6 pm, Helena College Donaldson Campus (1115 North Roberts)
- Bozeman: Wednesday, October 30, 4-6 pm, Willson Building Library

For questions about the workshops, please contact Renee Erlandsen at rerlandsen@mt.gov.

The New CTE Professionals 2019 Workshop—Professional Development Specifically for those New to the CTE Classroom

The Office of Public Instruction's Career and Technical Education Specialists will be conducting a **New CTE Professionals Workshop** on Wednesday, October 16, in Great Falls.

The New CTE Professionals Workshop focuses on early-career professionals—specifically Career & Technical Education professionals within the first five (5) years in a Montana Career & Technical Education classroom. Additionally, Montana CTE professionals who have participated in the past are invited to attend to enhance their classroom skills and knowledge of Career & Technical Education.

This **FREE** professional development opportunity will provide teachers who are new to the classroom, as well as those with five (5) years or less of experience, with information on a variety of roundtable and breakout sessions essential for success in the career and technical education classroom including

- Advisory committees,
- Career & Technical Student Organizations.
- CTE and program-area standards and guidelines,
- Instructional strategies for the CTE classroom,
- Perkins funding,
- Professional development organizations,
- State CTE funding, and
- Work-Based Learning

The workshop will be held at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls ([1700 Fox Farm Road](#)) from 8:30 am to 4:15 pm. The training is free of charge and lunch will be provided for attendees. Up to six (6) OPI Renewal Units will be offered. Attendees are responsible for their own travel and substitutes.

Additional details about the New CTE Professionals Workshop, including a schedule of events, is available at <http://bit.ly/NewCTE2019Flyer>.

Registration for the New CTE Professionals 2019 Workshop can be completed and submitted online at <http://bit.ly/NewCTEPro2019>. The deadline to register is Tuesday, October 1.

Please note: Individuals planning to attend the New CTE Professionals Workshop and the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute must register for each event separately. Registration details for the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute is available at montanaacte.org/prodevel.shtml.

For registration assistance or for more information, send an email to eswenson@mt.gov.

Registration Now Open for Montana ACTE 2019 Institute—CTE: Strengthening Quality Programs

The [Montana Association for Career & Technical Education](#) (Montana ACTE) will be hosting the 2019 edition of the [Montana ACTE Institute](#) in Great Falls at the Heritage Inn, October 17-18.

This two-day professional development event, themed "CTE: Strengthening Quality Programs", seeks to bring Montana's Career & Technical Education professionals from all levels and program areas together to further promote and enhance Montana's CTE community, programs, and students.

[Institute](#) events include the Montana ACTE Awards Luncheon on Thursday; a joint session hosted by the OPI Division for Career, Technical, and Adult Education Thursday afternoon on the new Perkins V law and changes in the application, funding, and reporting requirements; division meetings and breakouts; and the annual Montana ACTE Business Meeting Friday morning.

Early-Bird Registration is \$135 thru October 1 and ACTE/Montana ACTE and MBEA dues can also be paid with Institute registration. Please visit montanaacte.org/prodevel.shtml to download the [2019 Registration Packet](#) today.

Lodging reservations at the Heritage Inn can be by calling the Heritage Inn directly at 406.761.1900 and use the code "Montana ACTE" to book rooms at the state rate of \$94 plus tax.

MBEA Offering \$50 New-Attendee Scholarships for Montana ACTE 2019 Institute

The Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) is offering four (4) scholarships in the amount of \$50 each for Montana Business and Marketing Education teachers will be new/first-time attendees at the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute in Great Falls, October 17-18.

To apply for one of the scholarships, complete the Google form at <https://tinyurl.com/MBEAScholarship>. The application deadline is October 1, 2019.

For more information about the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute, please visit montanaacte.org/prodevel.shtml. For details regarding the 2019 Institute keynote and MBEA breakout sessions, please go to <http://bit.ly/MBEAInfo2019>.

TEAMS (Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule) is Now Open—Ensure Your CTE Data is Correct

TEAMS is **now open** and closes on November 1, 2019. The OPI has updated security features for TEAMS and user accounts may be locked due to inactivity. If you experience login issues while trying to access TEAMS, please contact OPITEAMS@mt.gov. If you do not have access or need to grant access for an employee, please have the Authorized Representative (AR) complete the [TEAMS Security Access Form](#).

Data from TEAMS pertaining to Career and Technical Education courses, student enrollments, and teacher certification is used for Carl Perkins accountability reporting and factors that determine the State CTE (State VoEd) funding allocations. Additionally, the data is also used to verify and approve Montana Career Pathways.

Therefore, it is imperative CTE teachers work with school/district officials to ensure the information submitted is complete and accurate.

Any high school district planning to apply for Carl Perkins and/or State CTE (State VoEd) funding for next year (2020-2021) should confirm the data in TEAMS for all CTE programs at their high school is correct.

The data for your program and courses within TEAMS should accurately reflect the following

- Name of teacher(s) for courses
- All current courses for the 2019-2020 school year are listed with the correct course title listed as the District Course Title
- All courses listed are aligned to the correct Course Code & Title
- Number of students enrolled and breakdown of males and females
- Term Type for courses (Semester, Full Year, Quarter, etc.)
- Class Minutes (the minutes of instruction for each individual course per the term type)
- If an extended contract is identified along with the number of days of the contract

To assist with providing the correct TEAMS data for your program and courses, a [Montana OPI K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) and a [worksheet](#) to assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI K-12 Course Codes before the data is entered into TEAMS can also be download at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

Updated MT Business Education Planning Calendar, Framework, CTSO Crosswalks, & Course Codes Available for Download

The [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) has been updated for the 2019-2020 school year. Within the Framework, updates have been made to the competitive event crosswalks for Business Professionals of America and DECA. The updated crosswalks reflect updates and changes to the competitive event programs at the national level effective for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Framework for Business Education in Montana provides teachers with common guidance for curriculum development and course content development. Review and update work for the Framework for Business Education in Montana was by a committee Montana business education professionals representing all classifications of Montana High School as well as business education teacher program coordinators from the University of Montana and University of Montana Western and the State Directors for Business Professionals of America, Montana Association and Montana DECA.

The course information within the Framework is organized by Career Clusters with the Common Career Technical Core as the standards for each cluster. Additionally, course content is aligned to the *National Standards for Business Education* and is crosswalked to the *National Standards for Business Education* and to the competitive event programs for Business Professionals of America and DECA.

A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>. If you would like to just download the [2019-2020 BPA and DECA competitive event crosswalks](#), they can also be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

While in the [Google Drive folder](#), be sure to download the [Montana Business Education 2019-2020 Planning Calendar](#).

Also updated for the 2019-2020 school year is the [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#). The Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions are used for the reporting of course taught in all schools and at all grade levels via the OPI TEAMS school staffing system. Updates to this year's manual include the removal of duplicated courses to help streamline course identification and the removal of "other" courses and codes. Additionally, the manual includes a complete listing of Montana teacher licensure course codes.

Within TEAMS, all courses taught are identified and aligned to a national SCED Code with the local school course title listed as well as term type, enrollment numbers, and length of instruction. For Montana's Career & Technical Education programs, the TEAMS data is also used to generate the Montana CTE Student Participation Reports which are used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations.

The [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) can also be download at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

To assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI/SCED codes before the data is entered into TEAMS, a [TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet for Course Codes](#) worksheet is also available at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

If you have problems accessing any of the documents noted above, please contact Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson at eswenson@mt.gov.

[You're Invited to the EVERFI Certified Teacher Program—Application Deadline is Friday, September 20](#)

You are invited to join EVERFI's [Fall 2019 Certified Teacher Program](#). This new competency-based professional development opportunity allows you to demonstrate how you integrate EVERFI's digital learning platform to teach real world skills in your classroom.

Participants earn a micro-credential, a digital badge for your resume and email signature and a professional development certificate. Additionally, participants gain a deeper understanding of EVERFI's critical skills courses, plan for implementation within their classrooms, and become education technology advocates in their school and district.

Visit everfi.com/program/certified-teacher for more information and to submit an application. The application deadline for the Fall 2019 cohort is September 20.

[Summer 2020 Computer Science Professional Development Announced](#)

Four computer science professional development courses for Montana's high school teachers have been announced for Summer 2020.

Generous stipends and travel support is available. To register, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/y5446nl6>.

If your registration is accepted, there is no additional fee for you to attend. A limited number of participants will receive travel support and stipends, so you may be responsible for covering the cost of travel if you do not receive funding. Outreach activities are required in order for you to receive the full stipend (details follow upon registration acceptance). Registrations completed by March 1, 2020 will receive priority consideration for funding.

[Mobile CSP](#) will be offered June 15-19, in Great Falls. Based on the College Board's emerging Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles curriculum framework for introductory computer science. Students learn programming and computer science principles by building socially useful mobile apps using MIT's App Inventor. Learn more about the Mobile CSP curriculum at mobilecsp.org. For questions, contact Stacy Dolder at stacy_dolderer@gfps.k12.mt.us.

Joy and Beauty of Computing (JBC) will be available June 15-19, in Billings. The course provides an overview of the world of computing, as well as a gentle introduction to computational thinking using the Python programming language. It examines the computing field and how it impacts the human condition, and introduces exciting ideas and influential people. This course can be taught for dual enrollment. Contact Jeff Braun, jbrown@mtech.edu, with any questions.

Python Modules for Math and Science will be June 22-26, in Missoula. Learn how to integrate modules that emphasize Python programming and computational thinking into high school science and math classes. Modules are fully developed and ready to go. They vary in length and difficulty. Opportunities to develop custom modules for your own classes will be provided and supported. For questions or more information, contact Yolanda Reimer at yolanda.reimer@mso.umt.edu.

Game Programming will take place June 22-26, in Missoula. The training will focus on 2D and 3D game development using [Unity](https://unity.com). Learn more about Unity at unity.com. Please contact Hunter Lloyd, hunter.lloyd@montana.edu, with questions or for more information.

NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing Contest for Montana Girls Now Open for Applications

This is the eighth year for the Montana NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing Contest.

For a number of years, the NCWIT (National Center for Women and Information Technology) has given national awards to high school girls. The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing is for young women with aspirations and achievements in technology and computing.

This year will be the eighth year that there also will be a MONTANA contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is September 1-November 5 and the application is found at www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school.

There are many qualified high school girls that would apply if they just had a little push from a leader like you. Any interested female high school student would need to fill in the on-line application, and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

In the past, Montana winners have been from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead, Billings West, Bozeman, Bozeman Petra, Broadwater, Butte, Cascade, Cut Bank, Great Fall High, Hamilton, Helena Capital, Helena High, Hobson, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Red Lodge, Seeley-Swan, Simms and Whitefish High Schools.

Hopefully your school will be represented on the winners list this year, but girls have to apply.

We are looking forward to recognizing Montana's talent, and hope that you would encourage the young women that you know to apply. Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and you are the person to provide that.

For questions, please contact Steve Harper and Ted Wendt Carroll College's Computer Science department at sharper@carroll.edu or 406.447. 4466.

P.S. There also is a Montana educator award (**with \$1000 for professional development**) given each year. Do you know a good teacher that you should encourage to apply (maybe you)? Encourage them to go to www.aspirations.org/content/encourage-educator.

Need help applying? The following resources are available: [Application Guide](#), [Parent Approval Guide](#), [Endorsement Guide](#), and [FAQs](#).

Nominations Being Accepted for Montana Business Education Association Awards

The [Montana Business Education Association](http://montanabusinesseducation.org) (MBEA) is accepting nominations for the 2019 awards program. MBEA awards will be presented during the MBEA Business Meeting to be held Thursday, October 17, during the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute in Great Falls.

Nomination letter are currently being sought for the following MBEA awards:

1. Outstanding Montana Business Education Teacher
2. Outstanding Young Business Teacher of the Year
3. Corporate Sponsor

Letters of nomination can be submitted to MBEA President Nicole Bogunovich at bogunovichn@billingssschools.org. The deadline to submit nominations is September 30.

Content Standards Feedback Surveys Now Open for Five New Content Areas

During July and August, Montana education professionals convened in Helena to participate as members of writing teams for Montana's newest sets of content standards—Career & Technical Education; Computer Science; Library Media/Information Literacy; Social Studies; and Technology Integration..

Feedback surveys for each of the five content areas are now open and available for responses. The surveys are linked on the OPI Website on the [K-12 Content Standards and Revision Page \(opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/K-12-Content-Standards-Revision\)](http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/K-12-Content-Standards-Revision) on the Montana Content Standards Revision Workspace website at sites.google.com/opiconnect.org/mt-content-standards-revision/home.

Feedback on the drafts of each of the five sets of standards will be collected through September 30, 2019. For questions, please contact Colet Bartow at cbartow@mt.gov.

TEACH CTE Day at Montana State University in Bozeman

Montana High School junior and seniors interested in changing the lives of others, being positive role models in their communities, and have an interest in careers in education are invited to TEACH CTE Day.

TEACH CTE Day will be held on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman on Monday, October 7.

Participants will learn about careers and educational opportunities in teaching within the Career & Technical Education program areas of Agriculture Education, Business Education, Family & Consumer Sciences Education, and Industrial Technology Education as well as communication, leadership, and extension education.

A draft of the [TEACH CTE Day schedule](https://bit.ly/2kt1HKQ) can be downloaded at <https://bit.ly/2kt1HKQ>.

Registration is free and participating students will receive lunch on campus, a T-shirt, giveaways, an opportunity to meet Champ. Participants will be responsible for all other travel and lodging expenses.

Registration can be completed at <https://forms.gle/DgzkRPs1VPHXWGt68>. Registration will be limited to 40, so register today to secure a spot.

For more information or questions, email Shannon.boswell@mt.gov.

Fall 2019 Edition of the High School Business Challenge and Stock Market Game

The Montana Council on Economic Education (MCEE) is excited to announce the Fall 2019 editions of the High School Business Challenge and Stock Market Game.

The Fall High School Business Challenge, presented by the Montana State Chamber Foundation, will start October 7 and run through December. The new administrator is Alistair Stewart, who can be emailed at alistair.stewart@montana.edu.

To learn more about the High School Business Challenge, please visit econedmontana.org/high-school-business-challenge. Registration is open now until October 1. Please contact Alistair at alistair.stewart@montana.edu to register.

The Fall Stock Market Game will also start October 7 and run through December 13, 2019. Details about the Stock Market Game are available at econedmontana.org/the-stock-market-game. To register, go to <http://registration.smgww.org/#/>.

Mark Your Calendars for 2019-2020 Business Education & CTE Professional Development Opportunities

Below is a listing, with links to more details, for Business Education- and Career & Technical Education-related professional development opportunities on the state, regional, and national levels for this school year.

[2019 New CTE Professionals Workshop](#): October 16; Heritage Inn, Great Falls

[Montana ACTE 2019 Institute](#): October 17-17; Heritage Inn, Great Falls

[Jump\\$tart National Educator Conference](#): November 1-3; Washington, DC

[Adobe MAX—The Creativity Conference](#): November 4-6; Los Angeles, CA

[ACTE CareerTech VISION 2019](#): December 4-7; Anaheim, CA

[NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Education Conference](#): December 9-10; Anaheim/Garden Grove, CA

[Western Business Education Association 2020 Conference](#): February 13-17; Torrance, CA

[Northwest Council for Computer Education 2020 Conference](#): March 4-6; Seattle, WA

[National Business Education Association 2020 Annual Convention](#): April 7-11; Boston, MA

[ACTE Region V 2020 Conference](#): April 22-25; Lake Tahoe, NV

All of these professional development events are Perkins and State CTE/VoEd funding eligible.

Montana Students Eligible for \$10,000 Scholarship and Trip to Washington, D.C.

The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) and Montana Office of Public Instruction are pleased to announce that Montana high school juniors and seniors are eligible for a \$10,000 college scholarship and all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to tour our nation's Capital and visit with leaders from all branches of the federal government. Two student delegates from each state will be chosen to participate in this prestigious program from March 7-14, 2020 for the program's 58th annual Washington Week.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 as stated in supporting Senate testimony from that year, "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationship of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

"Civics education is critical to preparing the next generation of Montana leaders," said State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen. "I look forward to nominating robust student leaders to represent our state in the 2020 USSYP Program who will make Montana proud on the national stage."

Each year, this extremely competitive merit-based program brings two high school juniors and seniors from every state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity, to Washington, D.C. for an intensive week-long study of the federal government and its leaders. The state departments of education throughout the country select the students through a rigorous nomination and selection process. Each student will also receive a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship, with encouragement to continue coursework in history, government, and public affairs. The Hearst Foundations have fully funded and administered the program since inception; no government funds are utilized.

The student delegates will visit Capitol Hill, the White House, the Pentagon, the State Department, the Supreme Court, and many other historic sites in Washington. The program agenda routinely includes meetings with Senators, the President, Cabinet Secretaries, a Justice of the Supreme Court, senior members of the national media, and other key policymakers. Each speaking event incorporates detailed question and answer sessions. This high-level exposure is precisely what fuels and sustains the delegates' commitment to making a difference in their country, communities, and schools.

Interested Montana students can visit <http://opi.mt.gov/Families-Students/Student-Resources/Student-Scholarships-Student-Exchange> for more information and to download the [application](#). Montana's 2020 USSYP Delegates will be formally announced in mid-December by Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen.

The deadline to apply for Montana students is October 1, 2019. Questions regarding the application process can be directed to Kristen Bokovoy at Kristen.bokovoy2@mt.gov.

The 2020 program brochure with detailed rules, selection process, and the annual yearbook may be accessed on the USSYP website www.usenateyouth.org.

Reach Higher Montana Dual Enrollment Educator Scholarship Program

Reach Higher Montana aims to increase high school students' access to high quality dual enrollment opportunities by expanding the number of educators eligible to teach courses for college credit, especially in Montana's small communities.

May of 2019 was the first year Reach Higher Montana awarded the Dual Enrollment Educator Scholarship and they encourage anyone interested in this opportunity to apply for the next opportunity in the spring of 2020.

Eligibility is open to educators currently teaching in Montana, preferably in a school classified as Class B or C and be committed to offering dual enrollment course(s) in current school upon completion of educational requirements (Master's degree, plus nine graduate credits in content area for General Education Core; additional education as needed for Career and Technical Education courses). Additional information on educational requirements can be found at <https://mus.edu/dualcredit/Qualifications.asp>.

Currently, one scholarship per year is awarded in the amount of up to \$5,000 per year, for two years.

How to Apply:

- The Dual Enrollment Educator Scholarship will re-open spring of 2020
- To preview requirements, check out the [Dual Enrollment Educator Scholarship Application](#)

For questions regarding the scholarship, please contact Reacher Higher Montana Executive Director, Kelly Cresswell at kcresswell@reachhighermontana.org.

Advance Registration for ACTE's 2019 VISION in Anaheim is Available thru October 26

The premier event for CTE professionals to connect and collaborate, the Association for Career & Technical Education's [ACTE CareerTech VISION 2019](#) features high-quality CTE programs, strategies for successful collaboration and innovation in the classroom.

This December 4-7, thousands of educators, business leaders and industry representatives will gather in Anaheim, California, to learn and inspire.

If interested in attending, the [Advance Registration](#) rate is currently available at \$445 and ends on October 25; after which, registration will be \$525.

[Hotel reservations](#) can also be made for [CareerTech VISION 2019](#) at many of the hotels near the Anaheim Convention Center.

Also, check out the CareerTech VISION 2019's [Travel page](#) for Delta and Disneyland discounts.

2019 NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Education Conference—December 9-10

Are you planning to attend ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2019 and/or are you interested in learning more about incorporating cybersecurity in your curriculum? [National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education \(NICE\) K-12 Cybersecurity Education Conference](#).

The NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Education Conference (www.k12cybersecurityconference.org) will be held December 9-10 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, just a block away from the Anaheim Hilton and the CareerTech VISION 2019 conference site.

Join NICE in the expanding national effort to promote and increase the K12 cybersecurity education programs throughout the country, and address how K12 education is uniquely positioned to accelerate learning, identify methods to best nurture a diverse learning community, and provide approaches to guide career development and workforce planning for students.

Conference Presentation Tracks includes

- Increase Cybersecurity Career Awareness
- Infuse Cybersecurity Across the Educational Portfolio
- Integrate Innovative Cybersecurity Educational Approaches
- Design Cybersecurity Academic & Career Pathways
- Promote Cyber Awareness

The Early-bird registration of \$275 is available through September 30. Discounted hotel rates are available at the Hyatt Regency Orange County for \$159.00 plus taxes and fees.

For conference details and to register, please visit www.k12cybersecurityconference.org.

Fun Facts and Trivia

The cantaloupe belongs to the melon family and is related to watermelons, cucumbers, and even pumpkins.

Cantaloupe are members of a vine-crop family known as *Cucurbitaceae*, which includes other melons, squash, cucumbers, pumpkins, and gourds.

The melon that's most widely recognized as cantaloupe in the U.S. is actually a "reticulated muskmelon."

The North American muskmelon is distinguished by its netted skin and strong scent. Its European counterpart– the true cantaloupe– has ribbed pale green skin and looks very different from our cantaloupe.

Cantaloupe derives its name from the town of Cantalupo, Italy, where cantaloupe seeds arrived from Armenia and were planted in the Papal Gardens in the 16th century.

According to the University of Illinois, the oldest illustrated reference to a cantaloupe dates back to 2400 B.C. in Egypt.

Christopher Columbus is credited for bringing muskmelon seeds on his voyage to the Americas and spreading cantaloupe cultivation to the New World.

An average-sized cantaloupe contains just 100 calories.

Cantaloupe tell you when they're ripe as the vine will naturally slip from the fruit when it's harvest time.

Cantaloupe are the most popular melon in the United States.

Cantaloupe is packed with Vitamin A and antioxidants such as beta-carotene, lutein, zeaxanthin and cryptoxanthin.

Because cantaloupes are high in Vitamin A, they help maintain good eye health as Vitamin A is essential for maintaining healthy mucus membrane and skin of your eye.

In Australia, they refer to cantaloupe as rockmelon.

In the US, California is the biggest cultivator of cantaloupe, particularly in the Imperial Valley and San Joaquin Valley of Central California.

Cantaloupe are also commercially grown in Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, and Texas.

China is the largest producer of cantaloupes accounting for 51% of the world total.

Other significant countries growing cantaloupe were Turkey, Iran, Egypt, and India.

Cantaloupe develops male and female (or sometimes bisexual) flowers on the same plant (monoecious). Once the reproductive organs reach full maturity, pollen needs to be transferred to the female flower within 24 hours to ensure successful formation of the fruit.

Yellow flowers attract honeybees that are responsible for the pollination of this plant.

Cantaloupe was first mentioned in English literature in 1739.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh